

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GEORGE 02186 021707Z

55

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /051 W

----- 063938

O 021625Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3638

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 2186

DEPARTMENT FOR BLACKEN, ARA/CAR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GY, US

SUBJECT: MFA OFFICIALS HOPE FOR THAW IN USG-GOG RELATIONS

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 2172, (B) STATE 268204

SUMMARY: IN THE PAST 24 HOURS, CHARGE HAS BEEN IN TOUGH WITH FONMIN WILLS, ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY SEARWAR, AND CHIEF OF PROTOCOL STOREY, ALL OF WHOM EXPRESS HOPE THAT PERIOD OF CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IS PAST AND SOON RELATIONS WILL RETURN TO NORMAL. END SUMMARY.

1. CHARGE MET WITH MFA ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY SEARWAR EARLY YESTERDAY EVENING AT LOCAL CHURCH. SEARWAR ASKED THE NORMAL QUESTION, "WHEN IS JOHN COMING BACK?" CHARGE REPLIED HE DIDN'T KNOW BUT HE HOPED SOMETIME SOON. SEARWAR SAID THAT GOG NOW INTENDS TO LOW-KEY THE DISPUTE. HE CONTINUED, "I HOPE YOU HAVE NOTICED THAT WE HAVE NOT ISSUED A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS REGARDING THE CONTENTS OF OUR PROTEST NOTE AND THAT WE DO NOT INTEND TO EVEN THOUGH THE PRESS HAS BEEN CLAMORING FOR A RELEASE. THE MFA IS TRYING TO KEEP THE LID ON AND WE CERTAINLY HOPE THINGS WILL GET BACK TO NORMAL." SEARWAR THEN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GEORGE 02186 021707Z

WAS AWARE THAT I WAS TRYING TO CONTACT HIM LAST

WEEK BUT SAID UNFORTUNATELY HE WAS ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM ABOVE NOT TO RECEIVE ME. HE REGRETTED THAT USG DEPENDENTS WERE THREATENED AND HOPED THERE WERE NO FURTHER OCCURRENCES. HE THEN ASKED ABOUT THE ELECTIONS AND INDICATED THAT HE PLANNED TO ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSE HOSTED BY USIS TONIGHT AS HE HAS IN THE PAST. CHARGE AGREED WITH SEARWAR IN HOPES THAT STRAINED SITUATION WILL BE PUT BEHIND US AND WE CAN GET BACK TO CONDUCTING OUR AFFAIRS IN A NORMAL MANNER PROVIDING NO UNTOWARD EVENTS OCCUR. SEARWAR CLOSED CONVERSATION WITH QUERY IF I HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH ACTING CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER. CHARGE REPLIED YES (CONVERSATION REPORTED REF A).

2. LAST NIGHT AT PARTY HOSTED BY VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR, CHARGE ALSO MET BRIEFLY WITH CHIEF OF PROTOCOL STOREY WHO ALSO REPEATED LINE THAT MFA HOPES TO CONTROL SITUATION AND PREVENT ANY FURTHER EROSION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES NOW THAT GOG HAS SUBMITTED ITS PROTEST OVER BROWN STATEMENT. GUYANESE AMBASSADOR TO U.S. LAWRENCE MANN ALSO ATTENDED ABOVE FUNCTION. HE WAS NONCOMMITTAL ABOUT HIS RETURN TO U.S.

3. THIS MORNING FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS TELEPHONED CHARGE OSTENSIBLY TO ASK ABOUT OUTCOME OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION. DURING COURSE OF THE CONVERSATION, HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT AFTER ELECTIONS THAW WILL SET IN AND THAT FOR HIS PART ALL PROTESTS HAVE NOW BEEN MADE AND HOPEFULLY CAN BE PUT BEHIND US. HE SAID THAT HIS OFFICE WOULD CONTINUE IN ITS ATTEMPTS TO CONTROL SITUATION. CHARGE WAS ESSENTIALLY NONCOMMITTAL IN HIS REPLIES AS INSTRUCTED REF B, BUT DID RESPOND CORDIALLY TO FOREIGN MINISTER'S QUERIES REGARDING THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND HOPES FOR BETTER THINGS IN THE FUTURE.

4. COMMENT: IT IS OBVIOUS FROM ABOVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GEORGE 02186 021707Z

CONVERSATIONS MFA OFFICIALS HOPE THAT SPEEDY RETURN OF CHARGE BLACKEN WILL RELIEVE STRAIN AND INDICATE TO GOG OUR WILLINGNESS TO ATTEMPT MODICUM OF NORMALITY. IN THIS CONNECTION FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE CUBANA AIR CRASH OF OCTOBER 6 NO MENTION OF CRASH HAS APPEARED IN YESTERDAY AFTERNOON'S AND THIS MORNING'S GOG-CONTROLLED PRESS. EMBOFFS IN THEIR RECENT

CONTACTS, ESPECIALLY WITH NON-OFFICIAL GUYANESE,
ARE GETTING MESSAGE THAT SEGMENT OF POPULACE
HERE BELIEVE BURNHAM WENT TOO FAR IN OCTOBER 17
SPEECH AND ARE VERY CONCERNED THAT ENTIRE
SITUATION IF NOT RELIEVED WOULD RESULT IN
IRREPARABLE HARM TO U.S.-GUYANA RELATIONS.
POSSIBLY MESSAGE OF MFA OFFICIALS REFLECTS THIS
VIEW. IT IS POST'S OPINION GUYANESE HAVE
GOTTEN MESSAGE THAT USG WILL SIMPLY NOT
TOLERATE IRRESPONSIBLE ACCUSATIONS OR
INSINUATIONS REGARDING OUR ROLE IN TERRORIST
ACTS CARRIED OUT BY ANTI-CASTRO GROUPS.
MCCOY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRISONERS RELEASE, POLITICAL SITUATION, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GEORGE02186
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760408-0687
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761191/aaaadato.tel
Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GEORGETOWN 2172, 76 STATE 268204
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFA OFFICIALS HOPE FOR THAW IN USG-GOG RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, GY, US, (BLACKEN, JOHN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006